of the National Perspective Plan which would only be possible if the concerned co-basin states agree to the water linkage proposal and provide other logistical support necessary for project implementation.

On-Farm Development Works

1489. SHRI RAMACHADRA KHUNTIA:
SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce ten per cent minimum mandatory charges for On-Farm Development (OFD) works;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of States who have agreed to the proposal; and

(c) the fresh steps taken to provide sound legal backing and organizational frame-work for Participatory Irrigation Management?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (c) Deriving from the recommendations of the Working Group of the Planning Commission on 'Private Sector and beneficiary participation' and the suggestions of the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Water Resources has proposed to introduce an element of contribution to the extent of 10% by the beneficiary farmers for components such as field channels, reclamation of water logged areas and renovation/desilting of Minor Irrigation Tanks during the Xth Plan. Involvement of beneficiaries through such contribution would encourage a sense of ownership in the assets created. The States, however, expressed that the proposed 10% beneficiary contribution could be in the form of labour rather than cash. The names of the States which are in favour of beneficiary contribution are Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana (favoured 5% beneficiary contribution), Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh. The Ministry of Water Resources had circulated a Model Act of the States, which provides legal and organizational framework for Participatory Irrigation Management. The States are being persuaded from time to time to amend their Irrigation Acts accordingly.